



# *Georgia*

## *House of Representatives*

*David Ralston*  
*Speaker of the House*

A  
Scene  
From the  
Gallery

*Bill Reilly*  
*Clerk of the House*

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- **ROSTRUM** - The Speaker of the House presides from the upper podium.
- **CLERK'S PODIUM** - Located just below the rostrum; the House Clerk and the staff maintain records of daily floor proceedings.
- **WELL** - The podium on the floor level is known as the "well" of the House. From the "well," members address the House. A member can speak for or against proposed legislation, make a morning order, or make an announcement.
- **SEATING OF MEMBERS** - Each Member is assigned a desk on the floor. From their desks, members have the opportunity to use a microphone to question a member that is in the "well" or to ask the presiding officer about parliamentary procedure.
- **VOTING BOARD** - Members vote red (nay/no) or green (yea/yes) with push buttons located on their desks. Roll call votes are tabulated electronically. Voting results are shown on the voting boards on each side of the chamber. Sometimes votes are taken by a show of hands or by a voice vote.
- **PHOTOGRAPHY AREA** - Members of the media are allowed to move about on the floor to make photographs but are not allowed to conduct interviews while the House is in session. Located in adjacent anterooms is space for news interviews.

## ORDER OF BUSINESS WHEN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES IS IN SESSION

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Call of the roll.</li> <li>2. Scripture reading and prayer by Chaplain.</li> <li>3. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.</li> <li>4. Report of the Committee on Information &amp; Audits.</li> <li>5. Confirmation of the Journal.</li> <li>6. Unanimous consents.</li> <li>7. Introduction of bills and resolutions.</li> <li>8. First &amp; second readings and reference of House bills and resolutions.</li> <li>9. Reports of Standing Committees.</li> <li>10. Third reading and passage of uncontested local bills and resolutions.</li> <li>11. First and second readings and reference of Senate bills and resolutions.</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12. Unfinished business of previous session.</li> <li>13. Orders of the day.</li> <li>14. Senate amendments to House bills and resolutions and reports of Conference Committees.</li> <li>15. Motions to reconsider.</li> <li>16. Morning orders.</li> <li>17. (a) When applicable, third reading of resolutions on the uncontested resolutions calendar; and<br/>(b) Other bills and resolutions for third reading.</li> <li>18. Evening orders.</li> </ol> |
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\*The first 30 minutes (approximate) of each legislative day are known as the "period of unanimous consents." During this period the call of the roll is conducted, followed by scripture and prayer by the visiting Chaplain of the day and then the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. The confirmation of the journal, which includes the minutes of the previous legislative day, is read and adopted. Introduction, first readings and reference, and second reading of legislation are also done during this time.

\* Under the Constitution of the State of Georgia, every Bill and Resolution intended to have the effect of general law is required to be read three times and on three separate days in the House of Representatives before such Bill or Resolution shall be voted upon.

After the "period of unanimous consents," the House addresses the General Calendar for that day. Bills and Resolutions given a "DO PASS" recommendation by a committee may be called for consideration at this time and given a third reading. (Note: As many members have already had the opportunity to read the proposed legislation, are familiar with the contents through committee work, and/or have possibly reached a decision on the measure, Representatives may use this time to discuss legislation with their seatmates. Also, members may be absent from the chamber during the third reading to meet with a constituent in the hall, to return a phone call or possibly attend a committee meeting. However, members must be present to vote on legislation and to make any motions.)

When any subject is before the House for consideration or debate,  
the following motions shall have precedence in the order named:

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) A motion to adjourn.</li> <li>(2) A motion to lay on the table.</li> <li>(3) A motion for the previous question.</li> <li>(4) A motion to adjourn to a time definite.</li> <li>(5) A motion to indefinitely postpone.</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(6) A motion to postpone to a certain day or to a time certain if postponed to a later time on the same legislative day.</li> <li>(7) A motion to commit.</li> <li>(8) A motion to amend.</li> <li>(9) A motion to print.</li> </ol> |
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